

NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
PROPRIETOR.

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AMUSEMENTS TO-NIGHT.

BRANT'S OPERA HOUSE.
West Twenty-third street, near Sixth avenue.—NEGRO MINSTRELS, &c., at 8 P. M.; closes at 10 P. M. Dan Bryant.

GERMANIA THEATRE.
Fourteenth street—FAMILE HOERNER, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:40 P. M.

PARK THEATRE.
Broadway—French Opera House—GIROFLE-GIROFLE, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:40 P. M.

NIBLO'S.
Broadway—UNCLE TOM'S CABIN, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:40 P. M. Edwin P. Thomas.

COLORADO.
Broadway and Thirty-fourth street—PARIS IN A STORM. Two exhibitions daily, at 8 P. M.

BOOTH'S THEATRE.
corner of Twenty-third street and Sixth avenue.—HENRY V., at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M. Mr. Rignold.

SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS.
Broadway, corner of Twenty-ninth street—NEGRO MINSTRELS, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10 P. M.

ROBINSON HALL.
Fifteenth street—THE LITTLE CARP, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M. Mr. Macabie.

ACADEMY OF DESIGN.
corner of Twenty-third street and Fourth avenue.—EXHIBITION OF WATER COLOR PAINTINGS. Open from 2 P. M. to 5 P. M. and from 8 P. M. to 9 P. M.

WALLACK'S THEATRE.
Broadway—THE SLAUGHTERS, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:40 P. M. Mr. Boucault.

WOODS MUSEUM.
Broadway, corner of Thirtieth street—SCHNEIDER, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:40 P. M. Matinee at 2 P. M.

BROOKLYN THEATRE.
Washington street—ELLEN, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M. Mrs. Ada Gaudin.

STADI THEATRE.
Bowery—ORPHEE AUX ENFERS, at 8 P. M. Miss Liza May.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.
No. 634 Broadway—VARIETY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M.

ROMAN HIPPODROME.
Twenty-sixth street and Fourth avenue.—Afternoon and evening, at 2 and 8.

THEATRE COMIQUE.
No. 514 Broadway—VARIETY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M.

FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE.
Twenty-sixth street and Broadway—THE BIG BO. VANDY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Mr. Lewis.

TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE.
No. 201 Bowery—VARIETY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M.

LYCEUM THEATRE.
Fourth street and Sixth avenue—PICKWICK and THE ODDERS, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:40 P. M. Mr. J. L. Toole.

TRIPLE SHEET.

NEW YORK, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1875.

From our reports this morning the probabilities are that the weather to-day will be warmer and cloudy.

WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY was celebrated yesterday with all due honors, and the only thing that cast a gloom over the festivities was the knowledge that Washington was not present.

THE REPUBLICANS IN WASHINGTON seem to find it hard to agree upon a policy, and their canons are not very harmonious. They have but ten days left to decide upon a course, and it is hardly likely that in that time they can arrive at any acceptable conclusion.

WE ARE INDEBTED to the Chilean Consul for interesting information of the Exhibition to be opened in Santiago in September. It will be seen that North America has commercial reasons for participating in this display, and the government of Chili will deal generously with contributors.

THE ESCAPE of Rochefort and his companions from New Caledonia is paralleled by that of two other French Communists, who arrived at Queensland in an open boat in December, after enduring great hardships. This memorable voyage is vividly narrated in our letter from Sydney.

THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT is attempting to prevent emigration by laws of repression. It would be wiser to reform those tyrannical rules of military service which are driving its subjects to seek safety and quiet in America. One proof of the error of Bismarck's military policy is that it tends to the depopulation of the Empire. The laborers remain at home, but the skilled mechanics and higher classes of workmen eagerly emigrate to a country where they will not be molested.

THE ARNIMS.—So much attention has recently been directed to the Arnim family that the account given of its genealogy in our Berlin correspondence will gratify a widespread curiosity. It is one of the oldest families in Prussia, and its record is rich in illustrious names, both in diplomacy and war. It is no doubt hard for the head of such a family to be imprisoned and defeated by Bismarck, whose titles of nobility are of very recent date.

ONE LONDON LETTER contains an account of a new government measure for the regulation of criminal prosecution in the British islands. There are public prosecutors in Scotland and in Ireland, but there are none in England. The bill to be presented in Parliament will provide for the appointment of such officers, who are to be clothed with important powers, and its passage in some form is believed to be certain. The present system, by which departments of the government conduct prosecutions, has long been known to be unsatisfactory and oppressive.

The Political Situation.

1. In the next House of Representatives the democrats will have a majority of at least sixty-five votes.

2. In the Senate the vote will stand thirty-five republicans, thirty-one democrats and eight doubtful, of whom at least six will probably vote against "strong Southern measures," and will, on other questions, hold a balance of power in the Senate.

3. For practical purposes and on the most important questions of the day, therefore, the democrats, if they should prove wise and conservative, may be fortunate enough to control both houses.

4. In the country at large the democrats have not gained since the fall elections. The failure to re-elect Schurz; the refusal of some other democratic legislatures to select first class men as Senators; the evident lack of harmony among the party leaders on the currency and tariff questions, and the feeling that the party has no policy except opposition to the republicans, and is not ready to welcome recruits from even the liberal republican ranks, combine with the general distrust of democratic politicians to make the country slow to give them its confidence. If, in the next Congress, where they will rule, they should act with extraordinary prudence and wisdom, this would undoubtedly help them. But the next House contains a good many new members, and leading democrats have quietly opposed the call for an extra session, because they fear that their people will be more zealous than discreet and will attempt to commit follies disgusting to the country.

5. The republican party in Congress is at present composed of two factions—one adhering blindly to the administration, ready and eager to do General Grant's bidding and determined on a bitter and relentless policy toward the Southern States. The administration republicans are made up in part of Southern carpet-baggers, whose political existence depends upon a continuance of federal interference in the South; in part of Northern demagogues, who will do anything to "keep the party in," and who fear to lose the Southern electoral vote, and in part of men who do not know that the war is over, who believe the Southern democrat to be a monster of wickedness, and who even dream of a new rebellion. These men, from different motives, agree upon a proscription and interfering policy, regardless of constitutional limitations and heedless of the lessons of history, of which most of them know nothing. They are ready to carry centralization to the furthest extreme, and on them General Grant can safely count as supporters of his third term project. Those of them who have ambitions of their own would sacrifice them to Grant rather than see the republican party lose power.

6. The other republican faction, less numerous in the House and imperceptible in the Senate, has not yet the courage of its opinions. It believes that we have gone far enough, and even too far, in Southern interference; it views the President's attitude with repugnance and alarm; it strongly disapproved of the New Orleans affair and the Vicksburg interference; and the recent Arkansas Message undoubtedly strengthened its determination to resist and brought it recruits. This faction actually contains most of the brains of the House; indeed, nearly every republican of pronounced ability belongs to this side.

7. Timidity has been the vice of this faction, and this is not unnatural. The country has come slowly up to their views, though it is now in advance of them. Accustomed to act within party lines, and conscious that a mere protest would only sacrifice them without benefiting the country, they have been slow to act, and their policy has been rather to obstruct. The President has dealt with them gingerly and maintained friendly relations with them, and it is only since Congress met that they have discovered that though he instantly gratifies their personal wishes he will have none of their advice. To-day not one of these men has the least influence at the White House, and all are conscious of this. They see even Shepherd preferred before them.

8. As one of the most important elements in the political situation comes the third term. The President has slowly thrown off the mask of moderation in the last three months, and of late he no longer conceals his partisan purposes. The motive of his policy is, at all hazards, to keep the Southern States in republican hands or else to nullify their vote, and it is his firm intention, as he once said, to "drag the party through." It would be difficult to find a dozen persons in Washington connected with public affairs, and capable of forming an intelligent opinion, who would say that they did not believe General Grant means to achieve a third term. The conviction is universal, it is not denied by his closest adherents, and it is everywhere taken for granted.

9. Finally, public sentiment. The opinion of the country is anxiously studied by members of Congress, and those who wish to know it have abundant means of informing themselves. It is believed, first, that the country does not trust the democrats, and would not, at present, like to see them in power. It does not know what they would do; and it believes that they would be capable of mischief and folly. Second, that the people are opposed to a third term, and will, under ordinary circumstances, prefer a democrat to the re-election of General Grant. But, third, that a foreign war or Southern troubles might create a state of alarm and excitement under cover of which the third term might hope to succeed. The immediate danger of a foreign war has measurably passed away by the acknowledgment of our claims against Spain; but there is talk among administration men of our need of another slice of Mexico; and the proposed caucus bill would, of course, give the President the means of stirring up revolution in the South.

10. The Southern men are in such a condition that they will give almost anything for a cessation of federal interference. Most of them would make an alliance with moderate republicans rather than risk a third term, and the wiser of them confess freely that they would rather see an independent and trustworthy republican in the Presidency, sure to carry the North with him in moderate and constitutional measures, than a democrat who might lack the support and confidence of the North. What they want and need is a permanent settlement and constitutional government.

11. Under these circumstances it would not seem to be difficult to unite moderate men of

both parties in opposition to General Grant, and to combine the elements in such a way that neither the third term nor a democratic candidate could hope to win in 1876. But a movement of this kind needs courage; it needs a leader; it requires confidence and the determination to run risks. That the leaders of the moderate republicans will be found on the right side when the struggle comes no one need doubt. They will sacrifice all their personal ambitions in 1876 rather than permit Grant to win his third term. But meantime they act as prudent generals; they skirmish. The fear is that they will keep up the picket fight too long, and that while they are at the outposts the army will get discouraged and demoralized. The fault of the moderate republicans may be inaction; lack of courage to seize the auspicious moment.

12. In the calculations of the future wise politicians of both sides remember that last fall's triumph was gained by the democrats by a singularly small aggregate majority. A total of only fifty-seven thousand votes turned from the democratic to the republican side, and properly distributed would have sufficed to give the republicans a majority in the next House and to carry the State tickets in Pennsylvania, Indiana and Ohio. The democratic majorities were often remarkably small; and with a leader having the confidence of the country the republicans could hope to retrieve their losses this year and in 1876.

13. The Presidential election lies eighteen months off. But New Hampshire and Connecticut elect this spring and Pennsylvania and Ohio in the fall. At present the prospect is that the last two will be carried by the democrats. For it must be confessed that the moderate republicans are very slow to act.

The Opening of the Harlem River.

Under authority of an act of Congress General Newton has for several months been occupied in a careful survey of the Harlem River and Spuyten Duyvil Creek, and the official report of his labors we give to the public this morning. It will be observed that nature provided the Island of Manhattan with a navigable waterway connecting the Hudson and East rivers, or a way easily made navigable, and that it is simply owing to neglect or bad management that it has been blocked. The growth of this city and the movement of the population northward make the improvement of this line of water communication of great importance to the future, and General Newton's report only anticipates enterprises which will soon become compulsory. It describes all the obstructions to navigation which exist in the Harlem River, and points out the manner in which they can be removed. The ideas of General Newton are liberal and broad, but he is not too far in advance of his age. The Harlem River could be made to New York almost all that the Thames is to London or the Seine to Paris, and has the advantage of both rivers in the smaller rise and fall of its tides. The suggestions of such an experienced and successful engineer as General Newton will no doubt have great weight with the government. His brilliant operations at Hell Gate last year gained him the confidence of this community, and his plans, if they are worthily executed, will make him famous among the great engineers of the time.

American Observations of the Transit of Venus.

Venus is worshipped now by those who were once her enemies—the philosophers, and the enthusiastic manner in which they rendered their devoted last December forms one of the scientific epics of modern times. The extent and elaboration of the observations of the transit of Venus have no precedents in astronomical records, and show the marvellous progress which science has made in this century, and the acknowledgment of its usefulness in all civilized governments. As the reports come in from the different expeditions we are rejoiced to find that they were so generally successful, and to-day we add to them the interesting account of the search for the Prussian astronomers on the Auckland Islands, which was made by the United States expeditionary ship Swatara. This letter of our correspondent brings the good news that the German party are not only safe but that they were very fortunate in their observations of the transit. The American astronomers at Queens-town, New Zealand, were quite successful, Dr. Peters having had no difficulty in obtaining perfect photographs or in making exact measurements of the contacts. The data for comparison obtained in both the North and South Hemispheres will enable the astronomers to make a large number of calculations, and thus to show that the great expense and greater labors of the expeditions were not wasted, but will be of immeasurable value to science. We append to this letter the speech made by Dr. Peters at a banquet given to the French and American astronomers at Olago, in which the achievements of his party are described.

THE NAVAL ACADEMY.—The attacks upon the colored midshipman Baker by his comrades at the Annapolis Naval Academy are cowardly, and must be suppressed by the government for the honor of the service. These young gentlemen should remember that all races are equal before the law, and that a colored man is entitled to all the rights which a white man possesses. Yet we are informed that one hundred out of a class of one hundred and fifteen refuse to give pledges that they will not repeat their assaults upon their comrade. This is ungenerous, unmanly, un-American, and public opinion will sustain the commandant of the Naval Academy in the measures he has taken to obtain fair play.

"FREE GERMANY."—The German Empire, according to Minister Bancroft and editor Medill and other eminent exponents of the rising growth of the German Power, very much resembles the United States in its freedom, system of law and the tendency of its institutions. This we have been informed again and again, and it comes rather harshly upon us, therefore, to learn that in this Empire newspapers are fined and suppressed because they publish an empyreal letter from the Pope. Mr. Medill is editor of an ample and important newspaper, and he might find occasion to instruct us upon this anomaly.

THE BEECHER TRIAL.—To-day begins the eighth week of the celebrated contest in Brooklyn, and Mrs. Moulton's cross-examination

will be resumed. The testimony of this lady has evidently made a profound impression upon the defence, and will require from Mr. Beecher an emphatic contradiction. The trial has passed through the preliminary stages, and the rehearsal of the statements of Messrs Tilton and Moulton has given place to the direct testimony of new and important witnesses. Every day now is likely to intensify its interest.

The Dangers of Arctic Exploration.

We think the North Pole can be reached provided those interested in the matter will only go about it systematically, as men go about any other business. In order to build railroads capital, labor and deliberate preparation are necessary; and why in the prosecution of a great scientific enterprise the same system should not prevail would be difficult to understand. Let the nations concerned sink their individual ambitions and postpone until a given time the execution of their plans. The English have taken the lead during the past few months, with the idea of sending out an expedition by the way of Smith's Sound during the coming summer. If they would put off the completion of their preparations another year we have no doubt that Germany, Austria and America would be ready to join with them, and thus the more certainly insure success. This, as we stated a few days ago, has been seriously proposed in England, and a powerful and concentrated effort is necessary. But, while all this is discussed by scientific societies and in the newspapers, people are continually throwing cold water upon the project by declaring that, even if important results are to be achieved, the dangers to human life are so great that no justification can be given for the risk. Thus highly important explorations are needlessly embarrassed by a mere fancy. It is well known by the experienced that the dangers of Arctic travel are not greater than those encountered in other parts of the world, and are incomparably less than travel in Africa. The history of Arctic explorations, from the beginning to the present time, presents comparatively little of disaster. Lives have been occasionally lost, it is true, but the proportion has been surprisingly small, when we consider the great losses which have attended like enterprises in the tropical regions. The fate of Sir John Franklin and his two ships' companies of one hundred and twenty-eight souls is fresh in the mind of the public; but this is entirely exceptional, no similar event ever having occurred except in the case of Sir Hugh Willoughby, who, in 1553, was lost, with his ship's crew, on the coast of Lapland. Barentz, in 1596, passed a terrible winter on the north-eastern point of Nova Zembla; but his party escaped after the wreck of the ship in open boats, with the loss of three men, including the sturdy commander. This case is paralleled only by that of Dr. Kane, who escaped in like manner, in open boats, from his ice-beleaguered vessel, the Advance, with the loss of only three of his party, two of whom died from causes incident to exposure without sufficient protection. Scurvy has always been regarded as the great scourge of Arctic voyagers, and Kane's party, like many others, suffered from that dreadful malady, caused by eating salt food. But Dr. Hayes subsequently wintered in the same locality without having among his crew a single trace of the disease. Game was there in abundance, and the ship was bountifully supplied with canned and dried fresh meats and vegetables. The scurvy did not make its appearance in Captain Hall's expedition, and no serious consequences resulted to anybody, even although half the ship's company drifted on an ice rift, after the Polar was wrecked, sixteen hundred miles, and the other half lived in a miserable hut through the winter. Captain Hall himself was the only victim; and his death was probably in no way attributable to the climate, and resulted entirely from natural causes. Shipwrecks, it is true, are common, but not more so in proportion to the number of vessels engaged in Arctic navigation than in any other quarter, while the risks to life after shipwreck are ordinarily much less, vessels being rarely wrecked except by being crushed among the ice fields, where opportunity is always offered for escape and for the saving of clothing, provisions and boats. In the dangerous navigation of Baffin's Bay hundreds of ships' crews have, without difficulty, escaped to the south, as did Dr. Kane in 1855. In truth, Arctic service has been popular, not only among the whalemen of Hull and Aberdeen and New Bedford, but is peculiarly attractive to the British man-of-war's men. Men who have been to the North once almost invariably desire to go again, and certainly the privations are best understood by those who have been sledging over the barren ice fields, especially during the past twenty-five years. These men are not scared by the mere recollection of cold fingers, even if they have nothing else with which to enliven their stories of Arctic adventures.

"Men," says Captain Sherard Osborn, "do not volunteer for certain death or starvation; and I can only say that so popular is Arctic service with the sailors that I am frequently asked by old seamen, 'Are you going up that way again, sir? Do not forget I am a volunteer.' The fact is more sailors have been thrown to the sharks from the diseases incident to service in China and the coast of Africa, within the past four years, than befell in thirty years' Arctic service; and our seamen and officers know it."

There seems to be a peculiar fascination about the romantic and mysterious regions of the hyperborea to inspire men with ambition to taste and relapse of its peculiar sweetness. What this is we may be at a loss to understand, especially when the mercury stands, as it has so long lately, down in the zeros. This, however, is a matter of individual fancy; and to those who have a disposition to gratify it we give our hearty support, though reserving to ourselves the right to seek our own enjoyment in some other quarter. People are not allured by danger without some extraordinary temptation; and the temptations presented by the Arctic regions are hardly great enough to overcome the natural instincts of life. Unusual danger may, therefore, be thrown out of the category of objections to sending out any number of expeditions for the solution of the mysteries which still, despite the efforts of centuries, continue to shroud the regions of the North.

Love in Politics.

The question as to whether, at a recent convivial assembly in Albany, Mr. William Cullen Bryant nominated Mr. Tilden for the Presidency remains in abeyance. An accurate and truth-loving correspondent informs us that the story was somewhat exaggerated, and that instead of a formal nomination by Mr. Bryant of Mr. Tilden to the Presidency there was a courteous expression on the part of the venerable poet that his venerable friend might ascend to still higher dignities. A compliment like this may naturally be variously considered. We would trust his rhetoric no matter how much he may have been under the inspiration of Pommery or Clicquot. A good deal must be pardoned to midnight and champagne. The soul awakens like an opening rose under the inspiration of Verzeny. But Mr. Bryant is a master in the use of phrases. He understands as well as anybody else the value of what is reserved in a phrase. He may have intended the allusion to a higher dignity to be a gentle suggestion that when Governor Tilden retired from his station he might become the editor of the *Evening Post*. Mr. Bryant, we believe, is too good a journalist not to know that the control of a great newspaper like the *Evening Post* is a far higher station than the Presidency. Therefore the question is this—Did Mr. Bryant, when he welcomed Governor Tilden to "higher dignities," mean to nominate him to the Presidency or to resign to him his own editorial chair?

As the truth-loving correspondent informs us, Albany at this season has fallen upon a merry, golden time. Every day brings an account of the joyousness of the present administration, the dinners that are given, the wines that are tasted, the cigars that are smoked, the parties that are attended. We have fallen upon an era of illustrious men—men unworthy of the honor they received, even from Mr. Bryant. There is our Governor, the Hamlet of modern democracy, the destroyer of Tweed, the conqueror of Tammany, in the full winter green of a ruddy old age. Then we have Lieutenant Governor Dorsheimer, who seems to develop extraordinary attributes. A few years ago he was simply "Bill Dorsheimer," District Attorney in Buffalo, or somewhere out West, and an assiduous republican beef-eater. But, by the heavenly process of change, which has converted him from a republican into a democrat, Bill is now the Adonis, the Apollo, the coming De Witt Clinton of New York, the Pitt, the Talleyrand—we scarcely know what to say—among our rising democratic statesmen. This is a lesson which the republicans would do well to follow. The transmission from Bill Dorsheimer, the eager, bustling lawyer of the West, to the Lieutenant Governor and the coming De Witt Clinton of the East is as remarkable in its way as the conversion of St. Paul, and should be an example to all beef-eaters to change their politics before it is too late.

Surrounding this court, with the venerable Tilden at the head and the young Laertes at his side, the embodiment of personal grace and genius, we have a select and honored group. There is ex-Governor Seymour, after declining twenty offices that there was no possible chance of his receiving, actually declining one to which he might have been elected. There is Francis Kernan, who ascends into the Senate by the grace of Governor Seymour. There is the delegation of gifted statesmen from New York in the Senate and Assembly, who neither steal nor intrigue nor plot, whose thoughts are high and whose ways are pure, whose days are given to legislation and whose nights to the courtesies of Governor Tilden. The dark spot upon it all is, according to our correspondent, that our Governor—a model in every respect in democratic virtue and integrity—falls in one essential to meet the hopes of his friends. He is a bachelor! His life is a reflection upon the ordinances and sacraments of Christianity—upon the corner stone of society. It is a serious question whether the father of a family can commend this example of a high officer whose life is a protest against society. All the ladies of Albany—whose beauty is said to be Andalusian—have conspired to compel the Governor to amend his life in this respect. The suggestion that he has passed the time when matrimony has charms is absurd, especially when we see that Mr. Disraeli, ten years the Governor's senior, is about to enter upon this state of dignity and honor. It would surprise us, therefore, to find this winter's merriest, social gratification, splendor and display come to an end without Mr. Tilden imitating the example of Disraeli. The contrivances for the Presidency may culminate in the one point that the future of the democratic party in America will depend upon—the resolution of Governor Tilden to accept or to refuse the thousand brilliant opportunities now spread before him, and thus to redeem his reputation from the stain of indifference to the highest duty which Providence has imposed upon mankind.

Mr. Green's Financial Jugglery.

Mr. Green's juggling reply to the inquiries of the Common Council in regard to the condition of the city finances bears so plainly upon its face the evidence of imposture that it is surprising to find any intelligent journal accepting its statements as correct. Besides misrepresenting the increase of the city debt and stating falsely the number and amount of "unadjusted claims" against the city, Mr. Green has evidently made an untruthful exhibit of the litigation in which the city has been involved during the three years and a quarter prior to the 30th December last, and of the expense that has been thereby fastened upon the city. He states that there have in that period been five hundred and seventy-two judgments entered against the city, exclusive of assessment cases, amounting in all to \$1,935,389, including \$66,082 for costs, of which about two-thirds were for debts owing by the city prior to the present Comptroller's accession to office. The dogged refusal of Mr. Green to give any information in regard to these or other matters connected with the Finance Department renders it impossible to discover how much money has really been wasted by him in needless litigation until the secrets of his confused and loosely managed office shall have been dragged to light in spite of his opposition. This is what the Aldermen desired to discover, and this is just what Mr. Green's financial jugglery conceals. Everybody knows it to be untrue that the sum of sixty-six thousand

dollars will cover one-fourth of the amount the city has been compelled to pay to lawyers and for costs through the Comptroller's litigiousness; yet no one hopes to discover the truth except through the labors of the Commissioners of Accounts or after Mr. Green's removal.

On the 30th of September last Corporation Counsel Deland Smith published a report of the suits then pending in his office against the city and of those concluded during the prior three months. That is the last official statement in our possession, but it affords quite enough information to prove the deceptive and untruthful character of this portion of Mr. Green's statement. More than nine hundred suits were then pending, exclusive of those to set aside or restrain the collection of assessments, and the amount claimed from the city in those suits reached nearly eight million dollars. A large proportion of them were for debts and alleged liabilities incurred since September, 1871. During the months of July, August and September, 1874, which are the slackest months of the year in the courts, a little over two hundred suits against the city were decided or ended. In seventy-four cases judgment was given for the plaintiff, and the amount recovered exclusive of costs, was \$241,521, besides twenty-two judgments for salaries, the amounts of which are not stated in the Corporation Counsel's report. In one hundred and thirteen cases the suits were settled or discontinued on payment of the claims by the city, and in these the sum of \$154,492 was involved, exclusive of costs, besides eighty-six cases thus settled in which employees and laborers were the plaintiffs, the amounts involved not being set forth in the Corporation Counsel's report. Out of the suits thus decided or concluded, numbering over two hundred, only four appear to have been in favor of the city, and these not on the main issue. In one motion to open judgment was granted, in two motions for judgment on answer as frivolous were denied, and in one an application for a mandamus was refused. In one case judgment was given for the plaintiff on the ground that the defence put in by the Comptroller was frivolous. This official report of the Corporation Counsel, covering only three months out of three years and three months of Mr. Green's term of office, must be sufficient to satisfy every one that the Comptroller's reply to the inquiries of the Aldermen in relation to the cost of litigation is as gross a piece of jugglery as his false statement of the debt increase and of the amount of outstanding claims against the city. The necessity of a thorough investigation of the Finance Department becomes every day more apparent.

PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE.

Scribner's is of all the magazines in this country or other countries the best printed.

Mr. Amasa Sprague, of Providence, is among the late arrivals at the Everett House.

Ex-Senator John B. Henderson, of Missouri, is staying at the Metropolitan Hotel.

In France they say that "Sir Thomas Carlyle" will be the next English poet laureate.

Ex-Governor H. H. Wells, of Virginia, arrived from Washington last evening at the Hoffman House.

Now that an oyster famine is upon us how will Theodore get "the food he wants to nourish his brains?"

A colored woman named Lucy Hawkins died in Washington yesterday at the advanced age of 115 years.

There is a man in a Paris hospital in the last stage of Rip Van Winkleism. He has been asleep 103 days.

That writ of error in the case of the Claimant is said to be based on startling new evidence obtained in Australia.

Assemblymen Thomas G. Alvord, of Syracuse, and James Faulkner, Jr., of Dansville, N. Y., are residing at the Metropolitan Hotel.

Mme. Risori arrived at Havana from Vera Cruz on the 21st instant, and sailed yesterday for the steamer Crescent City for New York.

Punch pictures all the liberal leaders who are proposed to succeed Gladstone, as engaged like the famous sailors in the effort to have the bow of Olympus.

All the Pope's old clothes are burned, and there is a race of men who regard this regulation as aimed especially at them, like certain words in the dictionary.

Berlin physicians are all of opinion that Bismarck has overworked his brain, and must give up. He is now incapable of continued thought on any single topic.

All the deposed Bourbon princes in Austria and elsewhere seemed a perennial source of supply for Carlos' cash box, but the accession of Alfonso has changed all that.

The United States Pension Agent in Washington has received information of the death of a pensioner in Georgia, aged ninety-nine years, who left a son sixteen years of age.

An English physician, during a lecture to a female audience on the use of alcoholic beverages, asserted that the "babies of London are never sorer from their birth until they are weaned."

The Marquis of Hartington, the new liberal leader, made his debut in a criticism of the reference in the royal address to Alfonso, and Disraeli called the leader's speech a string of "grotesque reminiscences."

Mr. Rainclaironny is about to visit London from Madagascar, in which country he is prime minister and commander of the forces. Of course he is a fiery man and will be sorry not to see Michael there.

George Washington's history seems in a fair way to be reduced in the common mind to a story of a hatchet, as Tell's was to a story of an apple; and there was no apple, and it is pretty clear there was no hatchet.

In the suit against the London *World* for libel in some sharp articles against money lenders the Court dismissed the complaint, holding that malice was not made out and that "a strong case of public benefit was shown."

It is said that the proposed compliment to Carlyle was a joke of Disraeli's; and it is probable that the crusty Scot will come out on the Premier with some of the worst English ever seen in the pages of a magazine.

His Excellency the President has given Miss Kate Forsyth, of Philadelphia, a bouquet with his autograph, which will be raffled to-night at the Academy of Music in that city at the tea party for the benefit of the Centennial.

Senator Fenton left Washington late on Saturday night for his home in this city. He is summoned here on account of the death of his aged mother. It is expected that the Senator will resume his seat in Congress on Thursday morning.

As Parliament has declined to admit Mitchell, and he is to be re-elected they will decline again, and how long will they keep on that way? Perhaps until the government feels itself provoked into arresting him on the old score as an escaped convict.

The London Journals of the 8th of February, report as follows:—Amid every manifestation of respect, as well from the general public as from the procession of which he was so distinguished an ornament, the remains of the late Sir W. Stansfeld, Bart., were on Saturday deposited in Westminster Abbey. In the long line of carriages which made up the funeral procession were those of the Queen, the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Edinburgh.